

ROB LUMBARD

GUITARTIST • SINGER • SONGWRITER



I was born and live in Des Moines, Iowa. I got some of my early musical education sitting in with musicians in the bars up on Forest Avenue and on Harding Road here in Des Moines. **Rose Marie Webster, Luther Allison, Sonny Terry** and **Brownie McGhee** were some of the people I bugged until they would let me play harp or a little guitar with them.

I giggered around doing a solo act until I joined **The Wapsie River Band** in 1980. I barn stormed the Midwest with them for ten years handling vocals, guitar, slide guitar, harp and banjo. Quite a few of the songs I've written were inspired by things I saw or heard during this time of playing biker bars and dives.

In 1990 I went back to playing solo and soon found myself opening up for **Lyle Lovett, The Band, The Austin Lounge Lizards, Dan Hicks, Jerry Jeff Walker, Norman Blake, Steve Forbert, Leon Redbone** and countless Blues acts that came through town. This coupled with a weekly gig at a local hot spot, Flanagan's, enabled me to record a couple of cds on the Hot Fudge label. I was also a part of the trio **Two Bobs and a Babe** which included Hot Fudge label-mates **Bob Dorr** and **Molly Nova**.



My music is Blues/Folk based but depending where I'm playing, you might find me covering a jazz standard, **Robert Johnson, Lyle Lovett** or doing a set of my own tunes. My Finger-picking guitar style can be traced back to my high school years of listening to **Hot Tuna, Doc Watson** and all the Blues and Bluegrass albums I could get my hands on. My slide playing has been influenced by **Johnny Winter, Lowell George** and **Ry Cooder**. For slide I use a '29 National and for most of my regular guitar work I use a '35 Epiphone archtop. My song writing has been heavily influenced by the Texas songwriters and tends towards self-deprecating humor.



This year will find me playing at festivals, bar rooms, restaurants, churches, many private parties and even a Bluegrass festival in August. My songs can be heard on KUNI radio. My voice can be heard on a radio add for The Dock restaurant. My music has appeared in several Public Television projects, one of which received an EMMY award!

I'm a member of the **Central Iowa Blues Society** and have participated in their Blues in the Schools program. I also take on a limited number of guitar students.